

ABSTRACT

5 A liquid crystal device comprises a nematic liquid crystal,
voltage means for applying a voltage across said liquid
crystal, and two substrates (42, 30) each provided with
an alignment layer (32, 33), wherein: said liquid crystal
is sandwiched between said two substrates (42, 30);

10 said nematic liquid crystal can be placed in at least
one operating state and at least one non-operating state,
and at least one of said alignment layers (32, 33) is provided
with a plurality of surface protrusions (40) formed from
an anisotropic material.